### Practitioner's Docket No. 1999US001

#### PATENT

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE e application of: Angelo RIZZARDI, et al.

Application No.: 09/738,623

Group No.: 1751

Filed: December 15, 2000

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Applicant: Angelo Rizzardi, et al. Serial No. 09/738,623 Page 2

### Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith).

| 1. | ->-         | Enclosures-accompanying-this-Information-Disclosure-Statement-are:        |             |   |  |  |
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|    |             | 1a.   | $\boxtimes$ | Form PTO-1449.  |  |  |
|    |             | 1b.   | $\boxtimes$ | Copies of Information Disclosure Statement citations.         |  |  |
|    |             | 1c.   |             | EPO Search Report   |  |  |
| 2. |             | This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b) with |             |   |  |  |
|    |             | the filin   | ng of th    | ne U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee or §1.97(e)   |  |  |
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|    |             | before  | the la      | tter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing |  |  |
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|    |             | Notice  | of Alle     | owance. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) in      |  |  |
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Applicant: Angelo Rizzardi, et al. Serial No. 09/738,623 Page 3

| 5.      |              | This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(e) in  |
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Respectfully submitted,

Scott E. Hanf

Registration No. 38,906

Clariant Corporation Industrial Property Department 4000 Monroe Road Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

Telephone: 704/331-7140 Facsimile: 704/331-7707